ar State Government's Account with RBI

898. SHRI K. R. MALKANl : 11 the Minister of FINANCE be ased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact tbat there a difference in thr accounts pre yed by the Bihar State Govcrn-nt and the Reserve- Rank of India the tune of Rupr l ight Hundred ares only;

(b) if so, the details of thr same; i

(c) the remedial action, if any, :en by Government in this rega

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE IRI M.V CHANlJRASI-1 EK ARA URTHY); (a) Reserve Bank ol lia (RBI) has n ported tha* ' nothing on the record of its Ccn-! Accounts Section (CAS), Nagpur iich maintains the Principal 1 >e-sit Account- of the Government of lar, to sug?e-;t that there is a d> rence in the accounts prepared by aar State Government and RBI to ; tune of Rs. 800 crores. RBI has rther reported that except for cer-in discrepancies the balances upto e end of September, 1994, have en confirmed by the Accountant il, Bihar, on 16 " S'94.

*(b^* ind (c) Do not arise ir. view ply given to part (a) of the iesti(n

infracts entered imder Delegation of Ffjaadal Power Rules

899. SHRI KRISHAN LAL HARMA: Will the Minister of [NANCE be pleased to state ;

(i whether it is a fact that con-acts entered under Delegation of inancial Power Rules can be en-red with' ut following the :od?l rma'ities evn on s igfr source isis;

(b) Whether thf cost of such contracts include provision in hard currency i.e. U.S. dollar; foi remun eration to the departmental emplo- who are cor) with the work as part of their official duties or for employees of some other pa rtment/organisat ion unde t Government of India when the work is to be carried out in Ind'* and such departmental employees continue to draw their nor.

(c) If not. what are tl adopted by Government *ol* ' , uch < n Ii . and

(d) If so, why j ' - of inclusion of such remuneration for departmental employees in *ihe* QO&1 of contract not to bi ' instead Governmen* give hoi rium to snch employees tn save foreign e>> tent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDR ASHEK ARA MURTHY): (a) No, Sir. Tbe Ministries/Departments can enter into contracts, including purchase on single tender basis, subject to provisions contained in the Delegation of Financial Power Rules, 197R and General Financial Rules, 1963.

(b) *Than* anl un der the Delegation of Financial Power Rules and General Financi:'.! Rules for making provisions in the :a:d contract: for" remuneration to the omenta!

(c) and (d) All the Ministries/ Departments are required to follow the rules/a sot-

Foreign Banks in India

900. SHRI K. R. MALKANt Will th? Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact tha* many foreign banks opera Ung ir :ndia grossly misbehaved in tbe Sccurvtm Scam;

(b) whether Government have fined them Rs, 123 crores; and

(c) whether it would not be best to delieense these banks in view of their grave economic offences particularly in view of the unequal competition between Indian banks and foreign banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): *(a)* Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has intimated that several foreign banks operatmg in India indulged in violations of RBI's guidelines on ready forward transactions/ PMS operations.

(d) RBI have imposed a penalty aggregating to Rs. 123.15 crores on 9 foreign banks.

(cj The decision on suspension of licences is to be taken by RBI who have indicated that in view of action already taken, they are not in favour of taking the extreme step of suspending or cancelling their licences. Government agrees with the RBI's view.

Transportation of Narcotics

301. SHRl K. R. MALKANl : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen press reports, which appeared in 'The Pioneer'dated 17th November, 1994 of bogus firms being launched which have used containers, all in the booming name of liberalisation ".nd export drive, to transport huge quantities of heroin, hashish and nandrax; and

(b) if so, what is being done to curb this dangerous trade in narco tics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE - ^INISTRY OF FINANCE HANDRASHEKARA (a) and (b) The said peared in the Indian Express dated 17-11-94 and not in tlie 'Pioneer' dated 17-11-94. The news item is an exaggerated surmise based on a case of detection of drug smuggling by NCB in Madras. The NCB and all other enforcement agencies are being kept alert to narcotics smuggling through ingeneous way.

उत्पाद शुल्क में रियायतें

902. **प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने यह सुनिश्चित किया है कि केन्द्रीय बजट 1994-95 में उत्पाद शुल्क में दी गयी रियायत का लाभ उपभोक्ताओं को प्राप्त हो ; और

(ख) सरकार उन निर्माताओं के खिलाफ जिन्होंने इस रियायत का लाभ उपभोक्ताओं को नहीं दिया है, क्या कदम उठा रही है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. वी. चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति) : (क) यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कोई तंत्र नहीं है कि उत्पाद शुल्क में दी गयी छूट का लाभ वास्तव में उपभोक्ताओं को दिया गया है अथवा नहीं ।

(ख) जिन मामलों में मूल्य नियंत्रण नहीं है उनमें उत्पाद शुल्क में की गयी कमी की सीमा तक मूल्य में कमी लाने के लिए कोई विधिक तंत्र नहीं है ।

Strong room of SBI, Cuttack

903. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased Io state :

(a) whether an urn containing ashes of Mahatma Gandhi has been found kept in the strong room of the State Bauk in Cuttack;

(b) if so, how did this urn reach there and what are the reasons for its remaining there during the last 46 years; and